

**PATENT**

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicants: Finkbeiner et al. Examiner: Unassigned  
Serial No.: Unassigned Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
Confirmation No: Unassigned Docket: 442-196  
Filed: Herewith Dated: September 16, 2003  
For: A LINEAR DRIVE DEVICE

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

*I hereby certify this correspondence is being deposited  
with the United States Postal Service via Express Mail  
No. EL679459772US, addressed to:  
Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450,  
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450  
on September 16, 2003*

Signed: Michelle Flaherty

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In order to fulfill the requirements of candor and good faith set forth in 37 C.F.R.  
§1.56, Applicants submit herewith the following Information Disclosure Statement in  
accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.97 and §1.98.

**UNITED STATES PATENTS**

<b><u>PATENTEE</u></b>	<b><u>PATENT NO.</u></b>	<b><u>ISSUE DATE</u></b>
Denne	5,440,183	August 8, 1995
Nagai	5,590,580	January 7, 1997

FORM PTO-1449 U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE (Rev. 2-32) PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE  INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT  (Use several sheets if necessary)	ATTY. DOCKET NO. 442-196	SERIAL NO. Unassigned
	APPLICANT Finkbeiner et al.	CONFIRMATION NO. Unassigned
	FILING DATE Herewith	GROUP Unassigned

## U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUB CLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		5,440,183	08/08/95	Denne			
		5,590,580	01/07/97	Nagai			

## FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUB CLASS	TRANSLATION	
							YES	NO
		DE 201 13 014 U1	11/08/01	Germany				
		EP 1 150 416 A1	10/31/01	EPO				
		DE 198 53 942 C1	07/13/00	Germany				
		DE 195 03 145 C2	10/11/01	Germany				
		DE 100 46 535 A1	03/22/01	Germany				
		DE 692 25 972 T2	01/21/93	Germany				
		WO 98/25032	06/11/98	WIPO				

## OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)


EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication with applicant.

### **FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS**

<b><u>COUNTRY</u></b>	<b><u>PUBLICATION NO.</u></b>	<b><u>PUBLICATION DATE</u></b>
Germany	DE 201 13 014 U1	November 8, 2001
EPO	EP 1 150 416 A1	October 31, 2001
Germany	DE 198 53 942 C1	July 13, 2000
Germany	DE 195 03 145 C2	October 11, 2001
Germany	DE 100 46 535 A1	March 22, 2001
Germany	DE 692 25 972 T2	January 21, 1993
WIPO	WO 98/25032	June 11, 1998

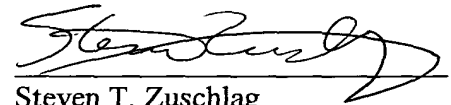
Copies of the references set forth above have been enclosed herewith for the convenience of the Examiner and a separate listing of the same has been set forth on Form PTO-1449 also enclosed herewith.

The relevancy of DE 201 13 014, EP 1 150 416 and DE 198 53 942 is set forth in paragraphs [0002], [0004] and [0005], respectively, of the specification of the instant application. English abstracts have been provided for the remaining cited references, namely, DE 195 03 145, DE 100 46 535, DE 692 25 972 and WO 98/25032. Note that DE 195 03 145 and DE 692 25 972 correspond to the U.S. patents cited.

In view of the present submission, it is believed that the present application is in all respects complete and in condition for examination and favorable consideration which is earnestly solicited.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments relating to the present application, he or she is respectfully invited to contact Applicants' attorney at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steven T. Zuschlag", written over a horizontal line.

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